

space city!

VOLUME III / NUMBER 1 / JUNE 8, 1971 / HOUSTON, TEXAS / 526-6257

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1217 Wichita, Houston, Texas 77004.

"Sorry"

Dear Space City!

I would like to publicly apologize to a young man on Galveston beach.

After opening a Coke I carelessly dropped the bottle cap on the sand. Before I had put them in the trunk of the car.

A young man with a camera over his shoulder strolling with his girl (by the way, she was without a bra which I think is indecent) said to me "Mam you shouldn't litter like that." I said in an unpleasant tone "I'll clean it before I go, Sir."

He was right. I was wrong in being snappy with him.

Nobody likes being told they are in the wrong.

Young man I'm sorry. Forgive me.

Mrs. Norma Le Bon

Don't Bank On It

Space City,

I read the letter from the young bank executive in the May 18 issue. Please tell him that I closed my account at Liberty Bank, which is undoubtedly where he is employed, after two years for the simple fact that they made several large errors in my account. Not only that, but after two years of banking there not even one teller could call me by name. There is no excuse for such impersonal service in a bank this size.

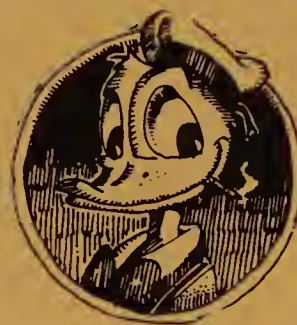
Furthermore, the "long-haired hippies" have brightened many a day for me on that very corner with a friendly smile and an offer to sell you a car-

nation at a very reasonable price. And as far as the radical newspaper, who wrote it? Anyone with a broad mind should have a paper such as this every once in a while to see how the other half live.

Obviously, this bank doesn't value its customers, as it doesn't want any hippies to do business there. Mr. Young Bank Executive, I suggest you come down off your little cloud, take off your rose colored glasses and see what real banking is really like and not try to shove your failures off on the hippies.

By the way, I am not, nor do I intend to be, a hippy. I'm a married woman with a fine husband and children.

Sincerely,
A former customer of Liberty Bank



Howdy!

Fellow Friends, Freaks or whatever:

Just a short note to say I can really dig the changes in the format of Space City! as it is much more varied. This is the way it was when I originally subscribed.

Thanks

Sue Ann Banks
131 Westheimer
Houston

cover photo by Jerry Sebesta

A Plug for Dave Duncan

Dear Space City:

Dave Duncan is a Jesus Freak. But he is also into building a New Community and in his non-violent way he is as truly a revolutionary as any violence-junkie Weatherman.

Until a few months ago he was inside the system working for the Juvenile Probation Department. But some people didn't like having a man in that position who worked with Switchboard and Inlet, who sent runaways to Family Connection instead of busting them, who wore long hair and a beard, who marched in peace marches, who heckled pigs at the Spiro Agnew gig and got the juveniles released who got busted at that bust, who spoke to high school classes and told them how fucked up the system was. So they framed him on a phony assault charge and caught him with some grass when they busted him.

This summer he is teaching a U. of Thought class on criminal psychology at the U. of H. on Tuesday evenings. He is a good teacher and really knows what he is talking about. He has worked in five or six juvenile institutions and was Assistant Warden of an Alabama prison. The class will meet every Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. beginning June 15 for 10 weeks. You can bet he'll blow some minds and he'll probably blow some of the skeletons in the Establishment's closets.

He worked hard for our community and for the Freaks in Kansas City before coming here. He helped start the SMC at Sam Houston Institute of Turdology in Huntsville. He worked at least two 8-hour shifts each week for Switchboard while he was working 48-hour week for the probation department. After he got out of jail he worked seven days a week and sometimes 24 hours a day at Switchboard until the police harassment drove him out of the Montrose area.

Give his class a good plug will you please?

In the midst of Revolution
Tommie Ellis,
Switchboard, Inc.
1826 Richmond, no.201
Houston

Phone (713) 526-6257.

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vol. 1, no. 1
june 5, 1969
houston, texas



PANCHO VILLA
Born June 5, 1878

1969

Space City! : Two Years On

We don't know whether to laugh or cry.

We've muddled through two full years and now, with this issue, we have the audacity to begin a third. Of all the gall!

Vol. 1, No. 1 of Space City News hit the hot Houston streets June 5, 1969. Needless to say, there were triumphs and tribulations between then and June 6, 1970 when Vol. 2 was initiated. By then, we were just Space City! (and still are). We had to streamline the name because a local UFO club had the name Space City News registered all official-like and got their nice lawyer to write us a nice letter.

Anyway, we entered the second year as just plain Space City!

The center spread of our first anniversary issue featured a zany photo of a bunch of Space City! freaks outside our humble if ample offices at 1217 Wichita. As you have probably noticed by now, this issue sports a similar photographic ego-trip. Ah, tradition. We're young yet, facing continual traumas and changes, and anything smacking of *tradition* lends a bit of continuity to our insecure souls.

Our last center spread photo was captioned "THE WICHITA GANG: Some of the people one of the times." That means no one short of an experienced Broadway stage manager could ever manage to get ALL of us ANYWHERE, and especially ON TIME.

So accept our word that pictured here are not all of us, but, indeed, a fairly representative sampling.

That's about all. We could run through a history of our hassles, the various

changes we've weathered, what effect we think we've had on the community, on and on. But we've said most of that before, and decided to make this communication short and sweet.

We will say this, though. We consider ourselves a *community* newspaper. That means we try to break down some of those arbitrary ol' barriers between "journalist" and "reader" (producer and consumer?). We want to get you folks out yonder, wherever you are — we know you're there somewhere — to become a part of us.

We need *you*. And we think Houston needs *us*.

We need you to write (if nothing more than letters scolding us or patting us on the back). We need you to sell the paper on the streets, to advertise if you have a product in need of a market. We need you to draw pretty pictures and take farout photos.

We need you to subscribe, to send us money if you have some extra hanging around, to give us goodies like typewriters, photographic equipment, chairs and stools, hot news tips, office supplies, love. A TRUCK! You name it, we need it.

And we just need you to come by and tell us what's on your mind.

OK? Our office is at 1217 Wichita, between San Jacinto and Caroline (near Hermann Park). Our phone number is 526-6257. Our normal, official-type office hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., though we're here lots more than that (just call first).

Come see us, and help make Space City! *your* paper too.

Love and perspiration,
the Space City! Collective



1970



1971



NEWS

Mississippi Nightriders

DREW, Mississippi (LNS) — Jo Etha Collier, 18, graduated from Drew High School on May 25. On her way home from the graduation ceremony, she was shot in the neck and killed by a bullet fired from a speeding car.

"She was black, that was the reason she was shot down," said Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, a veteran civil rights worker who was with Jo when she was killed. In a telegram to President Nixon, Mr. Aaron Henry, president of the Mississippi branch of the NAACP, said, "There was no provocation and no words were passed. It is doubtful they knew Miss Collier. They were apparently out to kill a black, any black."

Three white men were arrested in Cleveland, a town near Drew, Miss., early the next morning. Wayne Parks, 23, of Drew; his brother Wesley Parks,

26, of Memphis, Tenn.; and their nephew, Allen Wilkenson, 19, also of Memphis, were all charged with first degree murder.

Henry has called the killing part of a recent campaign to intimidate voter registration workers. He said that northern black college students who have been working on black voter registration in the Mississippi Delta have been "plagued with automobile tires being cut, bomb threats and abuses of all kinds."

Over 200 black candidates are currently running for local, county and state offices with several hundred more expected to file before the fall elections. Many are expected to win a number of positions formerly held by whites, especially in the heavily black northern Delta area of Mississippi. Drew, the scene of much civil rights activity during the 60's, is about one hundred miles north of Jackson, in the heart of the Delta farmland.

The night after the murder a number of black youths began throwing stones at passing cars. Drew's mayor, W.O. Williford, called the highway patrol for help and set an 8 p.m. curfew. Local residents said they saw the mayor walking the streets with a shotgun.

The next day black residents of Drew and Ruleville, a neighboring town, staged a silent march protesting the murder. Fannie Lou Hamer described how the town's whites reacted to the march. "It looked like an armed camp. They all had machine guns and loaded rifles. I never saw anything like it. After all we (the demonstrators) hadn't committed a crime. The girl had been killed and she was black."

FBI agents and officials of the public relations division of the Justice Department arrived on the scene shortly after the march. While the agents conducted their investigation, the Justice Department's P.R. people buttonholed the mayor. Local residents say they brought about a dramatic shift in the mayor's behavior. He started to leave his gun at home and a few days later attended the funeral and praised the black marchers for remaining peaceful.

Jo Etha Collier's funeral was held on May 30. Six hundred people gathered inside the Drew High School auditorium for the service while another 900 listened quietly outside to the public address system. Afterwards Aaron Henry said, "This wave of crime where whites are killing blacks must be stopped. If we can't get a positive answer from federal authorities . . . well, blacks are no longer willing to allow something like this to happen without retaliation."

Jo Collier's mother is a domestic and has seven more children. Contributions can be sent c/o Fannie Lou Hamer, 721 James St., Ruleville, Miss.

How to Get Free Food

ROSARIO, Argentina (LNS) — The manager of a large U.S. corporation was released here by his guerrilla captors on May 29 after the company agreed to distribute foodstuffs to the population and to rehire some of the 400 workers it had laid off.

Stanley Sylvester, the Argentine-born manager of the Swift meatpacking plant in Rosario and honorary British consul in the city, was captured and detained by a unit of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), one of five major urban guerrilla organizations now operating throughout the country.

After a trial in which Sylvester was

found guilty of exploiting the people, ERP demanded that Swift distribute \$62,500 worth of meat, sugar, bread, salt, coffee, blankets and other items of prime necessity to the residents of Rosario's slum districts. Swift complied, and thousands of people turned out to get the foodstuffs from the trucks that went into the slums, and the meat given out at the plant.

Swift also agreed to the guerrillas' other major demand to rehire some of the 400 workers laid off as a result of the company's decision to move out of Argentina.

Although ERP warned that Sylvester would be executed if police discovered where he was being held, more than 500 local agents and federal troops were deployed in a fruitless week long search for the prisoner.

The Swift plant in Rosario is now actually owned by the Deltec Corporation, a holding company for Swift, Armour and other interests of the international meat trust. More than 20,000 Argentine workers have been thrown out of work in the past year due to the trust's decision to shift its operations to countries where wages are lower and the workers less organized and militant.

Street Fights In Australia

CANBERRA, Australia (LNS) — Hundreds of students in this nation's capital fought a sporadic 10-hour battle with police who tried to stop an anti-war demonstration on May 21. Eight persons — two demonstrators and six police — were injured in the clashes, and 187 students were arrested.

Police first arrested about 30 students sitting in at Australia's selective service headquarters and later tried to break up the march into the city. When students showed up at police headquarters to protest the arrests, cops waded into the crowd wielding batons. Demonstrators fought back with stones as they retreated toward the campus.

The arrests were made under a new Public Order Bill, which many regard as aimed primarily at discouraging anti-government demonstrations. Australia has 10,000 troops in Vietnam.

South Viet Buddhists Want U.S. Cease-Fire

WASHINGTON (LNS) — In a dramatic statement by Thich Nhat Hanh, overseas spokesman of the Unified Buddhist Association of South Vietnam, Vietnamese Buddhists have called for an immediate unilateral U.S. cease-fire, an announced time-table for the total withdrawal of U.S. forces and an end of U.S. support for the present Saigon government.

Although the Buddhists have been leaders in the popular resistance movement ever since they played a key role in overthrowing Diem in 1963, they have until recently tended to emphasize their differences with the National Liberation Front (NLF) and other more outspoken groups. For this reason, the United States once pinned great hopes to a plan of using the Buddhists as an anti-communist third force in Vietnam.

But the statement by Thich Nhat Hanh, a monk exiled by the Saigon government since his outspoken lecture tour of the United States in 1966, represents a major drift by the Unified Buddhist Association toward the position of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the People's Peace Treaty now being circulated in the United States and in Vietnam.

Hanh's May 25 statement challenged the Nixon Administration's claims that a unilateral cease-fire would endanger the remaining U.S. troops.

"Such a cease-fire will not risk American lives. If American troops withdraw to positions of self-defense, pending withdrawal, the NLF will not attack them in order to draw them back into the whole territory," Hanh insisted. "The desire for peace in Vietnam is so great that those who do not show good will to end the war will lose much support."

If the U.S. government stops supporting the present Saigon government, Hanh said, the Vietnamese will take steps leading "to the end of corruption and dictatorship in Saigon, to the release of political prisoners, to the restoration of religious and civil liberties, and to the formation of a peace government."

Angela Davis Mistreated?

NEW YORK — Angela Davis, black scholar and revolutionary, is being held under prison conditions that may be harmful to her health, Henry Winston, national chairman of the Communist Party, recently charged.

Davis, a member of the Communist Party, USA, and a co-defendant, Russell Magee, are charged with murder, kidnapping and conspiracy in connection with an escape attempt by prisoners from the Marin County Courthouse in San Rafael, Calif., last Aug. 7. Four men, including a judge, were killed in that abortive attempt. Davis' alleged role in the incident is that the guns used in the attempt were registered in her name.

"No one can be silent in the face of the kind of sadism that is being practiced on Angela Davis," Winston said. He is calling for a massive mobilization to demand Davis' release on bail.

Winston charged that Davis is being held in a windowless cell that imperils her already poor vision. Winston himself was blinded due to medical neglect while he was a political prisoner. He also said that the 27-year-old California professor is not receiving adequate food or exercise.

Davis is currently awaiting trial. Defense motions for dismissal of charges have been filed with Superior Court Judge Richard E. Arnason in a San Rafael Court.

Arnason is the sixth judge appointed to preside over the case. Magee, a 32-year-old black San Quentin prisoner, challenged the fairness of the judge on Monday, May 24, but an Appellate Court Judge rejected the disqualification effort.

Magee called the new judge a "Ku Klux Klan man in disguise." He has repeatedly demanded the removal of judges, his right to defend himself and has asked for jurisdiction in the case to be transferred to a federal court.

Partially as a result of Magee's challenges and partly for other reasons, five judges have either disqualified themselves or have been disqualified in the case because of bias.



WESTHEIMER TO SECEDE?

by E.F. Shawver, Jr.

A confrontation is developing between two groups of citizens living in the vicinity of Westheimer between Loop 610 and Addicks-Howell Road, over the creation of a new school district in that area.

Joel B. Coolidge, an attorney and one of the 50 member steering committee which is leading the deannexation move, says that his group is concerned with "the deterioration of scholastic standards" in the Houston district.

The committee has mailed out 30,000 petitions to registered voters in the area. If the majority of these voters favor the creation of the new district, the group will request a special hearing before the Harris County Board of School Trustees at which they will also be required to demonstrate their ability to finance the new district.

The proposed Westheimer Independent School District would be bound by Addicks-Howell Road from Buffalo Bayou to Westheimer on the west, by Westheimer to Gessner to the Southwest Freeway on the south, by Loop 610 from the Southwest Freeway to Buffalo Bayou on the east and by Buffalo Bayou on the north.

It would remove about 20 square miles from the 312 square mile Houston district, and would include nine schools: Lee Senior, Rogers Junior and elementary schools, Grady, Pilgrim, Briargrove, Piney Point, Emerson, Walnut Bend and the new Ashford Elementary which is scheduled to open next fall. Presently there are 8,336 white and 453 black students (making a total of 8,810) enrolled in schools in the area but a spokesman for the group has said that enrollment next fall may approach 12,000.

The situation as Baumgardner's group sees it is that the sheer size of the Houston Independent School District has led to a deterioration in the quality of education within the district.

He referred to a recent study by the management consultant firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company which was undertaken at the request of the present school board to seek ways of improving the organization of the school district. Their recommendation to divide the district into administrative areas of around 25,000 students with each area under its own superintendent was adopted by the board. According to Baumgardner, this has resulted in the creation of an administrative superstructure which suffers from duplication of effort and increased expenditures for salaries and overhead.

Although he admits that he knows of no study showing a causal relationship between district size and deterioration of academic standards, he is convinced that a correlation exists. "Anybody sincerely interested in quality education for all children would be hard put to justify any opposition to our proposed district," he said.

An opposition group called Westheimer Residents for Houston Schools (WRHS) has nevertheless been formed "to inform the citizens of the ramifications of the proposal for a new school district," according to its spokesman, Stanley F. Merriman. Merriman made this remark at a press conference last Wednesday. A press release distributed at the conference said in part:

1. There is a certainty of an increased tax burden on the residents of the area affected. This portion of the city is predominantly residential and the bulk of school revenue is generated from commercial and industrial property tax outside this area.

2. It is quite apparent that such a

proposal will fail in light of the fact that HISD as well as the state of Texas are currently operating under federal court injunctions. Recent court decisions in other Texas metropolitan areas have disallowed the formation of such districts.

3. We share the concern for educational excellence with the committee involved with forming the new Westheimer School District. However, we emphatically disagree that the cause of educational excellence would be served by the creation of such a separate school district.

J.W. Baumgardner, who heads the steering committee, says, "We are non-political in nature, neither liberal nor conservative, nor do we represent any one ethnic group. We are operating entirely within the framework of laws specifically set up to deal with this sort of situation."

According to school board president George Oser, some 70 per cent of tax money received by HISD comes from commercial and industrial sources of which there are few in the Westheimer area. This might seem to indicate the necessity for increased taxes on the Westheimer residents but the 70 per cent figure alone does not warrant this conclusion. Baumgardner claims that a detailed examination of the area's present tax base has shown that no tax increase will be necessary to finance the new districts and he points out that in any event the law requires his group to prove financial ability to the Harris County Board of School Trustees.

The court injunctions WHRS mentions require the Texas Education Agency to disallow moves by local districts which would impede desegregation. Recently the Dallas County Board of School Trustees approved the transfer of 42 square miles from the Wilmer-Hutchins School District to the Ferris School District, but they were subsequently overruled by state

commissioner of education Dr. J.W. Edgar. Edgar's decision was upheld by the state board of education.

Asked what differences between the two cases would lead one to expect different treatment at the hands of the state board in this case, Coolidge said that the differences were of two kinds, procedural and statistical. Procedurally, the Houston proposal differs from the Dallas proposal in that it intends to create a new district rather than to transfer a segment of one district to another already in existence. Statistically, the Houston proposal would change racial balance in the remaining HISD by only two per cent (from 65 per cent white to 63 per cent white). The Dallas proposal would have resulted in a change of about 23 per cent in the Ferris School District (from 47.5 per cent white to 70.75 per cent white. In all of these percentages students are classified as either "white" or "Negro.") On the basis of the current enrollment figures for the Westheimer area as given above, the new district would be about 95 per cent white. Coolidge says that he does not consider this fact to be relevant.

At the same press conference Merriman accused Baumgardner's group of "attempting to further dissatisfaction with the enlightened and committed school board whom we support." According to a June 2 story in the Houston Post, a majority of the board members are agreeable to the proposed split. When questioned further on this, Merriman said that his group "supports the function of the school board."

The board members cited as approving the creation of the new district are vice president Rev. D. Leon Everett II, J.W. McCullough Jr., Mrs. H.W. Cullen and Dr. Ed H. Franklin. McCullough was quoted as saying, "I think this move is definitely a wise one and I

Cont. on 6

wish them success in their endeavor." Mrs. Cullen and Dr. Franklin also appeared clearly to favor the split. (Board president George Oser and Secretary Mrs. James Tinsley are reported to be definitely opposed. Dr. Leonard R. Rohhins, assistant secretary has not been quoted one way or the other.)

Rev. Everett was not entirely satisfied that his views had been correctly reported and held a press conference Friday afternoon to clarify his position. At this conference he stated that no vote had been taken by the board on the matter. He then gave his full statement: "I do not see anything wrong with it at the moment. Personally, if people out in that area feel that this is what they want and can support — and if at the same time it will improve the educational facilities and opportunities for the youngsters in that area, and incidentally, if they are interested in the best educational advantages available, provided this is legal, I see nothing wrong with it. School districts and school facilities are for children, of course, and if this would penalize the school youngsters out there, then I cannot see anything right with it."

As of Friday afternoon, the proponents of the new district report that they are nearing 40 per cent favorable returns of their petition and expect to reach 51 per cent by Monday evening. They hope eventually to reach 86 per cent.

Western Union Walkout Here

Members of the United Telegraph Workers walked off their jobs mid-night June 1 in a nationwide strike. (The UTW is the employees' labor union of the Western Union Telegraph Co.)

Western Union employees are striking in an attempt to gain an increase in severance pay and pension benefits in anticipation of the tremendous lay-off expected within the next year.

Western Union is presently constructing a centralized telephone bureau and computer switching center which will take the place of nearly 75 per cent of their employees when it goes into operation.

Mrs. Jerry Wright, president of UTW Local no.8, says that the employees understand that the company is trying to update itself by switching to more modern techniques of operation, but feel that Western Union owes its workers a little more than just a pink slip after what will be, for some, years of dedicated service.

Western Union maintains offices in most cities of the United States, including a large percentage of small towns. The new computerized operation will eliminate all but 300 of these offices.

The company has offered to transfer high-seniority employees to areas where the new centralized bureaus will be located. However most employees, are reluctant to move from their homes and will have to look for new jobs. This will allow Western Union to hire new employees at minimum wage levels rather than continuing to pay the higher wages older employees now receive.

Although the UTW has been meeting with company officials for months in an attempt to reach a satisfactory compromise and avoid a strike, company officials themselves recently broke off all negotiations.



Montrose Couple Harrassed, Jailed

by Ron Young

The Houston police department has done it again: harassment and arrest of an innocent couple in the Montrose area just a few yards from their place of residence.

Pat and Carolyn Layne, 2512 Mandell, were walking home from Pat's sisters house on Windsor at about 2 a.m. Thursday morning June 3. Just a short distance from their home they were stopped by the familiar terrorists in the blue and white car.

Officers P.D. Hawkins, badge number 2469, and B.R. Franklin, badge number 2118, began an interrogation. Pat and Carolyn explained that they were walking home. They were asked to show their I.D. Pat complied. Carolyn explained that her I.D. was at home just down the street and offered to get it. "Shut up! You're going to jail" was the reply.

"When we asked what we were charged with, we were told to shut up and get in the car," said Carolyn. "We were never told we were under arrest or advised of our rights, only to shut up." Later the cops told them that a call had been received about a prowler in the neighborhood and that they were being jailed to protect the people.

They were greeted with the usual courtesy on arrival at the police station. "Which one of you is the boy and which one is the girl?" (Pat has long hair.) "You look more masculine than that sissy you came in with," the cop told Carolyn.

They were charged with vagrancy and fined \$10 each. Pat and Carolyn have consulted an attorney and plan to file charges.

Harassment in the Montrose area is an everyday occurrence. If all victims of harassment would speak out, something could be done. The Montrose area could organize into an effective political force.

Carolyn puts it this way: "We have to unite and put an end to the constant abuse of our rights as human beings. We have to start policing the police and let them know we are fed up with their crap. It's a frightening thing when you can't walk down the streets without being harassed by the people who are supposed to be protecting us."

Bring This Coupon

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(Across from Alabama Theatre) Lounge & Garden

FREE Olde Time Movies Every Night — FREE

With This Ad — Draught Beer 30¢ a mug, \$1.50 pitcher — except Monday nights. Save This Coupon!

Every Monday Night — Full Length Features in Beer Garden — W.C. Fields — Old Westerns

Spanking In Dallas

DALLAS (LNS) — After listening to two days' arguments of a suit challenging the Dallas School District's right to spank children, U.S. Dist. Judge William M. Taylor Jr. dismissed the case on May 13 without coming to a decision. The judge had previously postponed the case for six months.

Back in the fall of 1969, Dallas teachers got a law passed which allows them to spank students as long as they have a parent's permission. But parents who testified against the law said that they had never been contacted when their children were spanked.

The author of "Violence Against Children," Dr. David Gil, also testified against the law. He cited that the rate of child abuse per 100,000 children in Texas is more than three times the national average of 9.3.

One of the state's witnesses was the paddle-maker for Sarah Zumwalt Junior High School, Stacy T. Mosley. He stated that he lost control when he spanked Roderick Oliver, a black student, unconscious last year, and therefore couldn't remember the details of that spanking. He admitted that he has spanked many students without their parent's permission.

Mosley has criminal charges pending against him for spanking several male students in a nearby high school when he caught them walking in the halls without passes. He told the court that he spanked Zumwalt Junior High School students in the halls, classrooms, in the bathrooms — whenever he found them and felt they deserved to be spanked. Mosley's paddles are ½ inch thick, 2½ inches wide and 22 inches long.

Charges Brought In Shiner

In the last three issues, we have reported the incident which took place last May 8 in Shiner, Tex., in which two blacks (one of them only six years old) were shot to death by DPS officers and a third critically wounded. All three of the victims were members of the Mathis family of Shiner.

Van Lee Mathis, Sr., whose six-year-old son was killed, and who was himself wounded in the incident, has been charged with "assault with intent to murder a peace (sic) officer." On the basis of the "evidence" presented by the official investigating agencies and from the testimony of eyewitnesses, it seems to us that it would be more suitable to charge the two DPS officers who shot two people to death.

The survivors of the shooting have done just this, filing complaints against the two officers with the Justice of the Peace in Shiner. Whether these complaints will result in any indictments (or will even reach a grand jury) is still in doubt.

The legal defense of Van Lee Mathis, who can easily be railroaded into prison, as well as the attempt to bring charges against the two officers, will cost money. A relief fund has been started to cover the necessary expenses, with Curtis Graves and Richard Ames as trustees. Contributions to this fund should be mailed to:

Mathis Family Relief Fund
c/o Standard Savings
2310 Dowling St.
Houston, Tex.



Klansmen Jimmy Dale Hutto and Paul Moratto, both of whom have been arrested in connection with right wing terrorism.

Grand Jury & the Klan

by Tom Hylden

I've studied the Grand Jury investigation of the Klan for about a week now, and I don't feel too confident that the District Attorney and the Police Department are particularly serious about getting to the bottom of recent terrorism in Houston.

Moreover, the very nature of the grand jury system in Texas scares me; if I were a medieval Spanish bishop itching to purge the land of those who didn't agree with my ideas of Catholicism, I would institute a grand jury system, modeled after the Texas system, to serve as a basis for my Inquisition. And I'd probably watch a lot of my imagined enemies burn at the stake.

The fact of the investigation, as reported by the Houston media give the impression that the city has finally responded to local and national pressure to make Houston a safe place for peaceful political dissent. But when the facts are combined with a little study of the grand jury system as it operates in Texas, one is not so sure.

For example, if the grand jury really wanted to get the information it claims to seek, it could offer immunity from state and federal prosecution to one of the witnesses, like local United Klan Grand Dragon Frank Converse. Then the witness would be compelled to answer any question put to him by the grand jury. If he refused to answer, as Converse has previously done by pleading the Fifth Amendment, he would be held in contempt of court. (This same technique is being used in the Seattle grand jury investigation of Mayday organizer Leslie Bacon.)

The grand jury investigation began on Wednesday, May 26. Fourteen people were subpoenaed for the purpose of providing information on bombings and other acts of terror directed against liberal and left wing groups in Houston. Lt. M.L. Singleton, head of Criminal Intelligence, stated at that time: "We feel we have sufficient evidence with the operation of the people involved to possibly secure some indictments . . . We've known for some time the people responsible and with the arrest of Michael Lowe, we felt we had sufficient evidence to present the entire matter to the grand jury."

If you want to be able to correctly interpret that statement, you have to have some familiarity with the grand jury system. Before a person arrested on a felony charge in Texas can be tried before a district court, the grand jury reporting to that court must rule that sufficient evidence exists to go ahead with the prosecution. If the jury agrees with the District Attorney that sufficient evidence exists, then it returns a "true bill" and the defendant is said to be indicted. If the grand jury finds insufficient evidence to substantiate the state's case, then a "no bill" is returned and the defendant is set free.

In 99 per cent of the cases this is all a grand jury does; it simply decides whether the District Attorney has sufficient evidence to prosecute. The District Attorney reads from his file on the defendant; no evidence is presented on behalf of the defendant. It has been said that the grand jury is a rubber stamp for the District Attorney's office.

However, the grand jury also has the power to conduct investigations on its own. It can subpoena witnesses to testify on any matter where it thinks a felony has been committed. In these cases, the grand jury doesn't rely on the District Attorney's information but gathers the relevant information itself. Such a grand jury is called a runaway grand jury and has in the past been used as a tool to investigate the actions of public officials. (A grand jury, if it wanted to, could call Louie Welch to testify on his real estate transactions.)

A third use for grand juries occurs when the District Attorney's office doesn't have sufficient evidence to prosecute anyone and wants to use the grand jury's powers of subpoena to gather information that the police can't (or won't) provide.

When a person is testifying before a grand jury, he is not allowed to have an attorney present in the room where he is being questioned. If a witness refuses to answer questions put to him, the District Attorney may offer him immunity from any future prosecution; the witness is then compelled to answer all questions and the information he provides may be used to indict others.

Now let's get back to Lt. Singleton's statement. He claims that the present investigation is the culmination of two and a half years of diligent police work and that sufficient evidence exists to return indictments. If that were true then there would be no need for the grand jury to conduct the investigation it is now conducting. The District Attorney's office would simply offer its evidence to the grand jury, and the grand jury would return an indictment. So the present action is not the culmination of two years work; the police either don't have or won't divulge the information necessary to get to the bottom of Houston's wave of terrorism.

But is the present grand jury investigation an attempt to get to the bottom of the problem? It doesn't appear so. First, no one has been offered immunity from state and federal prosecution in return for talking. (And if you're offered immunity, you have to accept it.) Second, no indictments have been returned as a result of the investigation per se. But an attempt has been made to create the illusion that the investigation has yielded results.

Last Thursday the grand jury handed down an indictment of Michael Lowe for possessing the materials to make a bomb. Lowe is a Klan member. Great, you say; the system works. But wait: Lowe was arrested on May 22 — *before* the grand jury investigation began. Singleton himself claimed, *before* the investigation began, that they had sufficient evidence to indict Lowe.

Lowe's case is a hard fact case. A grand jury must only determine whether or not reasonable evidence exists to show that he was in possession of the materials that the police allege he carried. Normally, after the arrest, the District Attorney would have read the charge against Lowe before a grand jury; he would have read from the file, that is, where Lowe was arrested, what the arresting officers found in his possession. The grand jury would have then returned a "true bill" or a "no bill." But this wasn't what happened. Instead, the grand jury waited *until* all the fanfare about its investigation had hit the press, *until* the Police and the District Attorney's office had made their claims about getting to the bottom of the terrorism. Only then did it return an indictment against Lowe.

The point is that the grand jury investigation has nothing to do with Lowe's indictment. The evidence against him was gathered before the investigation began. Under normal procedures, that evidence would have been presented to the grand jury for action. It appears that normal procedure was not followed in order to give the impression that the grand jury investigation was producing results.

So, there are three facts that make one question the sincerity of the present grand jury investigation. One, if the police really had the information they claim to have they could make arrests based on that information, and there would be no need for the grand jury investigation.

Two, if the investigation itself were intent upon getting the information the police don't have or won't divulge, then the District Attorney would offer immunity to someone believed to have the information and that person would be required to talk.

Three, normal grand jury indictment procedures have not been followed, which leads one to think that someone is trying to give the *impression* that action is being taken.

And on top of all this, one can't help but note that the investigation has come

Cont. on 19



See the last three or four issues of Space City! for the Mathis Family/Texas DPS/Shiner, Texas story.

Any contribution to the Mathis Family Relief Fund that you care to make will be sincerely appreciated.

You may drop by or mail any donation direct to the following address:

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advertisement



The following is a perspective on the recent Chicana conference held in Houston written by two participants. They offer one view of the controversial walkout staged by some of the conference-goers. Next week we plan to present a viewpoint from a participant who joined the walkout.

by Gloria Guardiola and Yolanda Garza Birdwell

Friday, May 28, was the beginning of a memorable event for the women of our *Raza*. Hundreds of women from different states came to Houston to get together for the first time to study, learn and exchange ideas.

It was beautiful to see our *hermanas* (sisters) gather and express their hopes for a successful and fruitful gathering. Many had sacrificed and worked hard to earn money to attend the conference.

The enthusiasm was beautiful on Saturday, which was dedicated to workshops. Since we were unable to attend all the workshops we cannot present an objective viewpoint on their outcome. However, we will discuss the workshop which we conducted during Saturday morning's session: Sex and the Chicana.

Over 100 women attended our workshop and the participation of the women was tremendous. We were excited to see the enthusiasm this topic generated in the women, and that the majority were able to express their ideas and opinions, which were varied.

As a result of the workshop's discussion, the following resolutions were presented:

1. Sex is good and healthy for both Chicanos and Chicanas, and we must develop this attitude.
2. We should destroy the myth that religion and culture control our sexual lives.
3. We recognize that we have been oppressed by religion and that the religious writing was done by men and interpreted by men. Therefore, for those who desire religion, they should interpret their Bible or Catholic rulings according to their own feelings — what they think is right — without any guilt complexes.
4. Mothers should teach their sons to respect women as human beings who are equal in every respect. *No double standard.*
5. Women should go back to the communities and form discussion and action groups concerning sex education for males and women of all ages.
6. Free legal abortion and birth control for the Chicano community, controlled by Chicanas. As Chicanas we have the right to control our own bodies.
7. Make use of church centers, neighborhood centers and any other place available.

There was evidence that several groups were discontented with the organization and planning of the conference. This was manifested in the disruption which occurred Sunday morning. After accusations and insults were hurled back and forth, emotions rose to a high pitch and a walk-out took place. Principal participants in the walkout were groups from California and Houston.

It seems that one of the main points stressed by the discontented groups was the predominance of middle class participants in the conference and the lack of *barrio* (community) women in attendance. They also protested the fact that the conference was being held in a racist, capitalist institution such as the YWCA.

Although we agree on the two points mentioned, we support our *companeras* (comrades) *de la Raza* who organized the conference. They had more courage than many of us who refuse to participate and work within the present system. We do not think that it is just to make our three *companeras*, the original organizers, responsible for the lack of *barrio* representation. All of the people, including the *companeras* who walked out, had the opportunity to contact *barrio* women and bring them to the conference. Therefore, it is illogical to expect from others what we are not willing to do ourselves.

Another important factor which prevented the total success of the conference was the vast political differences among the women. We observed that our people are still hung up on a nationalist viewpoint, that only that which is "brown" is good, and that we will win the struggle by ourselves. On the contrary, there were those who believe that this is a class struggle and that the true enemy is the capitalist system, not the *gringo*.

The lack of political awareness was significant because many arguments centered upon labeling and name-calling and participants were classified as middle-class or *barrio*. We don't believe in labels. We believe in differences in education and political awareness.

We believe that many of the women at the conference who were crying for the poor people of the *barrio* (so they say) were very hypocritical, because by attending the conference they demonstrated their acceptance of the location, audience and purpose of the conference.

It is our belief that people who do not contribute in a constructive manner to the discussions in any group, and who do not have an open mind, are victims of their own inferiority complex.

In conclusion, the disruption accomplished several things. Among them was the realization that many of our *Raza* need to become more politically aware of the causes and goals of the *Raza's* struggle for liberation. There is a great need for the so-called *barrio* group to start studying and analyzing more and to give of themselves in our common struggle. We, who have been given all sorts of labels, believe that people, regardless of whether they are considered *barrio*, middle-class, high class, etc. - do not need to be treated differently. We are all human beings, united in a common cause, the liberation of oppressed people.

Perhaps it has been our fault, as leaders, to overemphasize *Chicanismo* and the ideology of the *barrio* as being the salvation of our *Raza*. From an historical point of view, we are lying, since all successful revolutions have been *international* in ideology and have not been led by the proletariat (working class poor, who do not contribute anything but their labor to the productive process).

Let us all rid ourselves of labels, practice the true spirit of *carnalismo* (brotherhood), learn to respect each other, and in the spirit of unity continue our work.



June 19-20: Gay Liberation Conference, U of H with nationally known gay speakers and workshop: Gays and the Law, the Family as an Institution, Sexism and Sex Roles, and Religion. (There will be a special workshop for non-gays.)

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Pancho



Pancho Villa, the famous Mexican revolutionary, was born on June 5, 1887. The first issue of Space City! (then called Space City News) was published on June 5, 1969, 91 years after Pancho Villa was born into a family of Mexican peasants.

Page one of that first Space City! carries a drawing of Villa done by artist Kerry Fitzgerald, and the issue was officially dedicated to the Mexican guerilla leader. With this, the beginning of our third year, we once more commemorate the Mexican revolution and the legendary Pancho Villa.

• • • • •

The Mexican Revolution lasted for 10 years, from 1910 to 1920. Pancho Villa was an active participant through the duration and, except for a brief period in 1915 when he occupied the President's chair in Mexico City in alliance with the peasant movement of Emiliano Zapata, he was an outlaw and rebel. He led an army of as many as 40,000 miners, cowboys, railroad workers and herdsmen — and their families — in his northern home province of Chihuahua.

In 1910, Mexico was entering its thirty-fifth year of rule under President Porfirio Diaz's policy of *pan y palo* — bread and clubs. The bread was for his friends and supporters, like the American millionaires William Randolph Hearst and Cyrus McCormick to whom he granted lucrative mining and railroad contracts, or the small clique of Mexican industrialists who called themselves *cientificos* (scientific thinkers) who thought that the progress of the nation demanded the obliteration of the hopelessly backwards Indian population and closer alignment with the United States and Western Europe.

Guadalupe Lopez, 81 years old, is a resident of northside Houston. He was born in Zacatecas and grew up in Guanajuato, Mexico. He worked as a servant for a hacienda (a ranch house). He himself did not participate in the Revolution, but was sympathetic to it, and gave us his opinions about those significant years in the history of Mexico.

Lopez came to the United States in 1924. For two years he has been an active participant in activities supported by members of the Mexican American Youth Organization. He was one of the first persons to visit the vacant Juan Marcos Presbyterian Church after it was liberated by MAYO. He was among the *barrio* (community) residents who busted the Shamrock Hotel party for bourgeois Chicanos, which was addressed by Sen. John Tower. He attended the recent Barte Haile trial proceedings. He does not consider his activities "radical," but rather a normal response to the conditions prevalent today.

The following interview with Guadalupe Lopez was done for Space City! by Yolanda Garza Birdwell and Sue Mithun.

* * * *

Tell us about your experience in the Mexican Revolution, especially your observations of Pancho Villa.

When I was a young man, I was working for the *Hacendados* (the landowners who controlled the political life in Mexico) and I was pressed into the military service by the government of Porfirio Diaz. My employers were able to obtain my release. I was compelled to work as a peon (serf) for these *Hacendados* after my release. I worked as a dairy farmer and beekeeper. The daughters of my *patron* (boss) were nice women and concerned about the workers. I was married during this time and was able to avoid the flu epidemic because I was working in a remote section of the ranch. My wife was a maid for one of the *patron's* married daughters. Francisco Madero was president of Mexico at the time. I first heard about Francisco (Pancho) Villa at this time.

What people, in your opinion, was Villa fighting for?

Throughout his career, Villa fought against the rich.



Guadalupe Lopez

Sue Mithun

Villa

the clubs were used to subdue
ous Indians and criminals who
forced to work on plantations, or
trikers like the miners of Rio
o who suffered 200 deaths and
mprisonments in battles with the
and police in 1907.

the liberal landowner Francisco
ro was imprisoned in June, 1910,
pposing Diaz in the presidential
ons. He escaped and appealed to
Mexican people to overthrow the
nment. Small guerilla bands soon
into armies led by Villa and
a, Diaz fled the country and
ro assumed power. The new
ent was a civil libertarian and
st, who had trouble seeing eye to
with the *Villistas* (who were seiz-
ing big cattle haciendas) or
Zapatistas (who were reclaiming
unal land from big landowners.)

unterrevolutionary forces led by
r army general Victoriano Huerta
power and assassinated Madero
13. Liberal (Constitutionalist)
led by Venustiano Carranza and
dical armies of Zapata and Villa
again united against the reaction-
and Huerta, like Diaz before
eft for exile in Europe in August,

ranza assumed the presidency,
s opposition to meaningful social
n (he was a liberal of aristocratic
round), as displayed in his re-
to accept Zapata's land reform,
ted him not only from the peas-
rmies, but also from the more
l elements of the Constitution-
led by General Alvaro Obregon.
forces united in the Sovereign
utionary Convention (or con-
approved most of Zapata's plans
expelled Carranza from office.
on and the radicals rejoined
za, however, when Villa assum-



Villa and Zapata sit at Presidential chair in Mexico City after defeat of federal forces.

ed the presidency with Zapata's back-
ing.

Both Zapata and Villa were regional
rather than national leaders, however,
and neither was interested in assuming
control of the entire republic. After
1915, neither Villa nor Zapata re-
entered Mexico City. Tension between
Carranza and Obregon increased as the
striking power of Villa and Zapata
diminished. Obregon sympathized
with many of the reforms his oppon-
ents believed in, but was willing to
fight them in order to institute the
strong national government he thought
necessary to deal with foreign invest-
ment and exploitation, a problem
neither Villa nor Zapata really con-
fronted.

By 1920, with Zapata murdered in
an ambush the year before and the
remnants of his army scattered, and
with Villa reduced to executing occa-
sional raids and skirmishes, Carranza
felt strong enough to move against
Obregon. After barely escaping Mexico
City and an indictment for treason,
Obregon issued a call to arms against
Carranza. Most segments of Mexican
society, including the army as well as
Zapatistas and *Villistas*, backed him,
and he swept into the Presidency with
more popular support than any man
since Benito Juarez in 1855.

Almost immediately, Obregon offer-
ed Villa a pardon and an *hacienda*, and
Villa accepted both. He remained a
formidable force in the country, how-

ever, and during a period of political
unrest was assassinated at this *hacienda*
in 1923.

Villa supported Zapata's land re-
forms, as well as limits on working
hours, protection of working women
and children, the formation of unions
and the right to strike — all important
for the miners and railroad workers of
Chihuahua. But also characteristic of
Villismo and of the cowboys and
cattle rustlers of Chihuahua, was that
one Mexican journalist called "*Des-
contentadiza, liberrima, inconsciente,
arralladora*" — "Restless and hard to
please, unconscious, overwhelming.
More a force of nature than of
politics." (*Zapata and the Mexican
Revolution*, John Womack, Jr.)

Was there a great deal of exploitation of the people by the rich?

Yes. During the time I am speaking of most adult males were paid 25 cents
for a full day's work. Approximately 75 cents a day was necessary to afford a
day's ration of food, but the rich controlled the production and the crops were
warehoused so it was impossible to buy food even if one had the money. The
masa (corn flour) available to the poor was cut with ground corncocks. May God
forgive me, but I used to steal food to give to those less fortunate than myself.

*Do you think the Villistas (revolutionaries who fought under Villa) accom-
plished anything?*

Certainly. All the *Villistas* I met always fought with the welfare of the people
in mind. Many were killed, but they accomplished a lot. During the time of Por-
firio Diaz (the Military dictator who ruled Mexico before the revolution) many
people were driven out of their homes and off the land because they disagreed
with the government. The revolutionaries were able to prevent this kind of thing
from happening. Porfirio Diaz was only working for the rich, the upper class.

Did you meet Villa?

Yes, I saw him once. One time he came to my village. He had a moustache and
was wearing a suede vest. All those who were with him were dressed the same
way. He was a very outgoing, energetic and charismatic man.

When did you come to the U.S. and why?

I came to the United States in 1924. My brother who lived here wrote me
and said the job situation here was much better than in Mexico.

How did you find the job situation in the United States?

The same as in Mexico. I got a job as a farmworker. We were woke up by a
bell before daylight and worked until dark for one miserable dollar. I encounter-
ed racial discrimination for the first time. We had to use the same public accom-
modations as the blacks. I have nothing against black people, I like them. What
bothered me was the attitude of superiority exhibited by the whites. They work-
ed us like dogs. Even now that I am an old man, I go to some gathering or event

and I find the same attitude of superiority exhibited by the whites, especially
the older ones. There are some Americans that I like but on the whole I do not
like them because of the way we have been treated.

One thing I can tell you, I have worked for a lot of rich people and I know the
main thing my work has done is to make them richer. You can produce thous-
ands of dollars and not be appreciated as a person. Another thing I noticed, we
Mexicanos could be doing the same job in the fields as whites. The next year the
whites would be promoted. We could work at the same type of job until we died
and never get a promotion. Something else I'm going to tell you even if you get
mad. Sometimes they would put a Mexican forman over us and they were worse
than the whites. They would work useven harder just to please the *Gringo*. It
should not have been that way. They should have been concerned about their
Raza (own people).

*What do you think of the new uprising, particularly among the youth, for
justice?*

People are very stubborn. Everyone thinks they can move in different direc-
tions but I think we have to have unity in *La Raza* to gain justice for our people.

Did you see women participating in the revolution?

I saw some. They fought alongside the men. I don't see anything wrong with
their fighting.

Do you think we need another Pancho Villa in the United States?

Yes, we need a man like him with guns to overthrow those who do not do
anything for the people.

Do you think we need a revolution in the United States?

Sure, that's what it's coming to. More and more, the rich oppress the people.

What do you think about the police?

I believe that when we have a just government they will not kill people as
often as they do now. A lot of people today are killed by the police for no good
reason. They abuse their authority and use their guns too much.

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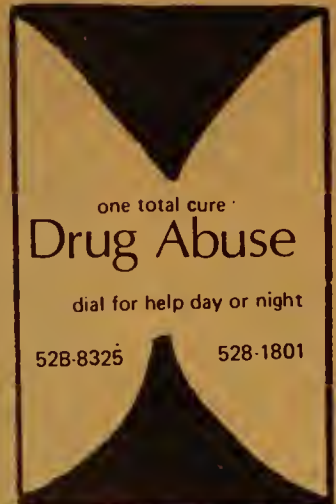
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Want to step out of time? To see the Houston area as it was fifty years ago, before the great progress of our age? Imagine yourself on a slow flowing brown bayou, fringed with great old oaks, pines, magnolias, cedars and dozens of other types of trees, vines, shrubs and flowers. All around you are the sounds of birds and other forms; the strange screech of the woodpecker, the cries of herons, the scream of hawks, the trills of scores of waterbirds and songbirds.

As your canoe silently glides around a bend in the stream, you watch a band of assorted ducks explode into startled flight, quacking as they rise. A great white heron glides serenely away to a tall dead tree, where he sits, watching you.

In the water you can see schools of channel catfish swimming in formation, gulping at the surface for the mating lovebugs which litter the surface. They detect your boat at a distance of six feet, and with a splash, they turn as one and sink from sight. From the dense vines along the shoreline, a brown and yellow water snake glides out, swimming with a beautiful rippling movement across your bow in search of minnows and frogs.

In your imagination, you are exploring the Amazon; the beautiful vegetation and array of wildlife seem like something out of Ramar of the Jungle. Overhead you see a formation of geese knifing across the sky, while, higher up, great vultures wheel gracefully against the clouds. The smaller birds are everywhere: flocks of brilliant cardinals, huge glistening crows, buntings in iridescent blue, green and red, the tiny hummingbirds busy amid the wild honeysuckle vines that blanket the tangled lignate masses, mockingbirds singing to tiny finches, so many they are impossible to count.

Along the shoreline, the grey squirrels chatter and flit about like monkeys: while beneath the trees, a raccoon paces the boat, hunting silently for crayfish and frogs. In the marshlands you pass at intervals, nutria, looking like a cross between beavers and rats, forage for green shoots and roots, along with muskrats, possums, mice, and a few deer.

You stop for a moment, easing your canoe into the maze of waterways leading into the marsh. There, across a large circular patch of water vegetation, you see the most thrilling sight of all: a majestic golden eagle sweeps across the marsh, landing in a noble old pine a quarter mile away. All around him are less rare great birds: blue herons, cormorants, ducks, egrets, a hawk or two. At last the eagle rises and soars away over the forest; breaking the spell, and sending you back to the main stream.

There are more snakes now, as you reach deeper and deeper into the upstream wilderness. Huge bullfrogs leap with a grunt into the water as you pass, and the wild and free birds sit and watch, unconcerned, as you pass. Gliding beneath the limbs of a dead tree, you feel the brush of the hanging spanish moss and think of anacondas and tarantulas. Sure enough, the spiders along the water are many and large, some scuttling over the water in search of prey.

Afternoon is deepening the shadows now, and the fish begin to leap all around the boat. The catfish barely break the water, just a flash and a swirl, but enough to show that some of them are over four feet long. The big gars are even longer, and the smaller crappie and ocean fishes leap in glittering arcs, sometimes right over the canoe. You drift around another bend in the bayou, and then you see it.

An Alligator, well over ten feet long, glides down his slide and disappears into the swirling water. You pass over the spot, peering into the depths, but he is hiding on the bottom. Now the



Frank Jaubert



alligator holes are common along the banks, and some of them connect to mazes of narrow channels dug by the passage of the great reptiles, reaching to hidden lakes and ponds apart from the main stream.

Darkness begins to fall in the jungle, and you pull the canoe ashore to make camp for the night. Beyond the perimeter of your warm campfire, the gators boom and roar, the owls glide invisibly through the night, the bobcat wails to the coyote, and a few of the dwindling red wolves hunt as their ancestors did. There is danger here, and mystery; land where none has walked before, where life is rich and wild and free . . .

Sound like a dream, or a distant land? I was describing a recent canoe trip to Armand Bayou, located twenty miles from downtown Houston. I tell you this not to reassure you that such land can exist so close to a big city, for Armand Bayou is the last unspoiled bayou left, and it is soon to be destroyed.

I write this not to criticize the Friendswood Development Co, whose plan to get rich by "developing" the bayou into a concrete storm sewer lined with tacky tacky tract houses is in progress today, but to urge you to go, rent a canoe (\$7) and get out there at least once before the pigs get through with it. If you go, go in silence, with reverence and respect for the vanishing life you will see. There are more than enough who go only to kill, with rifle or crossbow, anything they are able to run down.

There are many who go in motorboats, to zoom through, throwing bowwaves after the retreating fish, and wonder why they see no wildlife. There are too few who go as friends, to enjoy the mere sight of some of the wonderful and miraculous wrinkles in the evolutionary scheme of things, to take with them a real and concrete love of wildness and of life; the kind of love that spurs men and women to action.

To go to Armand Bayou, take the Gulf Freeway south 20 miles to Bay Area Blvd, go East, over the overpass, and watch. The first bayou you cross will give an impression of the near future of Armand; it has been partially "developed". The second bayou is Armand, and you can launch your canoe right across the bridge. Go under the bridge, and upstream for the best part of the bayou. And if one afternoon amid the eagles and the alligators is enough to make you give a damn, call George Mitchell, of the Bayou Preservation Society, at 3900 One Shell Plaza for what you might be able to do.

* * *

Dear Brian,

When I saw the letter from "Am-I-a nympho-or-iceberg?" I was afraid to read your reply. I started to anyhow, and was pleasantly surprised. But after the first five paragraphs, you got way off base. It was clear to me that what the woman was saying wasn't that she

rarely had orgasms, but that she never seemed to get enough orgasms or they weren't satisfying.

I sympathize with her. I sometimes (not most of the time) have the same feeling. My advice would be not to change her behavior as much as her attitudes towards her behavior — e.g., to start thinking of screwing as "the way that's considered normal in this up-tight male-dominated society", rather than "the real thing". Masturbating is as real and natural as intercourse with a man, or as any kind of love making with a man or a woman. (I take that back. Some people call sado-masochistic things love making. I don't consider them to be love making or natural.)

And lastly, there just seems to be something inherent in the erogenous make-up of a woman that sometimes gives her an insatiable sexual appetite. We just have to live with it.

"Am-I", you are neither a nympho nor an iceberg. You are normal. We women need to increase our communications so that we realize we are not misfits just because we don't fit the molds that society tries to pour us into.

Signed,
Content, more-or-less

Q: Have you heard of the marijuana Tax of 1937? Well, here it is: the law is a taxation law. It stipulates that anyone possessing marijuana must register with the Secretary of the Treasury, obtain and fill out official taxation forms and pay one dollar per ounce of marijuana. 88 Americans, doctors and researchers, have so registered and are licensed to experiment with marijuana.

I have just requested some marijuana taxation forms from our government. If anyone doesn't register with the government and possesses marijuana — then the law is broken! Crazy, isn't it? Just think what would happen if every person in this country were to write and request a marijuana taxation form from our super-potent Secretary of Treasury. Boy, I bet it would blow their minds!

Just think what it would be like if a person who smokes weed or who does not smoke weed were to request a form. Mass confusion in our money-mad government. I could really dig it! Why not get all your friends and enemies to request a real marijuana taxation form!

A: I think it is actually somewhat more than one dollar an ounce; but I agree that a flood of 25 million form requests might cause the government to reconsider a few things. While we're on the subject, 25 million people could also elect a whole new government . . .

Q: The pipe you mentioned in the April 13 issue is a chillun, not a chakra. A chakra is an Indian term, I believe, in breathing exercises in Yoga and is the system of centers of consciousness (solar plexus, forehead, top of the head, etc).

Not too sure about that — but the pipe is definitely a chillun. Check out Shiva Head's notes in the S.F. Good Times for lore of smoking hash with Indian monks high, high in India (generally with sub box on second or fourth page).

Cosmic Charley
The Rag, Austin

A: Wrong again. Speaking of corrections, authoritative sources inform me that four to eight Baby Woodrose seeds is, indeed, a very sufficient dose. It is also suggested that extreme tact be used by anyone wishing to procure the plants from a florist: they almost got the same notoriety as Morning Glory seeds a couple of years ago, and publicity of any kind (e.g. this column?) could blow the whole show.

Brian Grant

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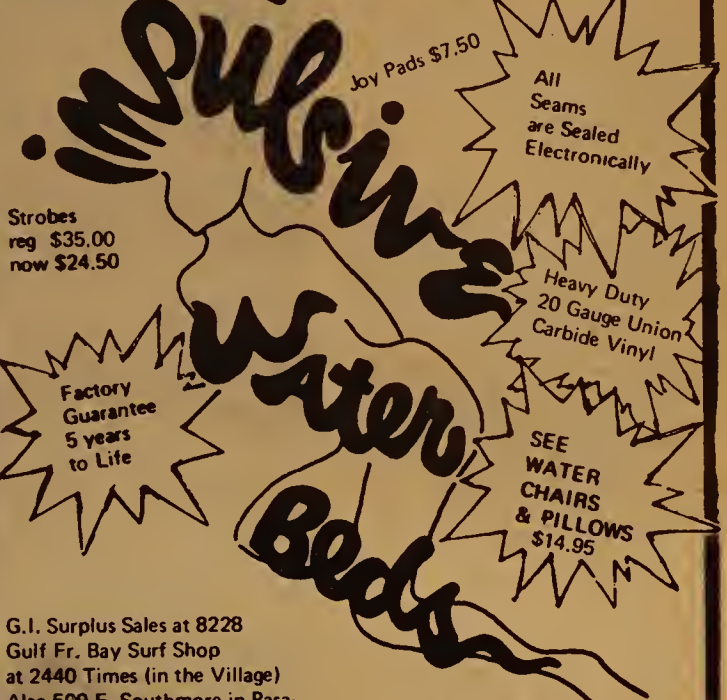
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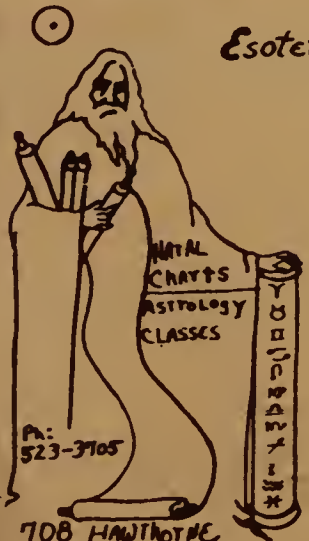


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alice cooper



Doug Kershaw — coming to Liberty Hall this Fri & Sat.

Cooper/Mayall

Too Loud

Several weeks ago Channel 8 ran a segment on the life of Beethoven. One scene sticks in the mind. The almost deaf composer had come back to his apartment, cut the legs off his piano and was lying on the floor banging out single notes, straining desperately to catch any of the note's vibrations in the floor of his apartment. Beethoven's pain suddenly brought home the idea that music is almost a necessity for survival, especially mine, and as far as pleasure goes it is one of the most agreeable.

Since that time, every rock concert I've gone to has always made me wonder what I'd do if I couldn't hear the music anymore. Gradually then, I began to resent attempts by rock to make my ears ring and make my head hurt with its volume.

Consequently the John Mayall, Brownsville Station, Alice Cooper concert May 31 was a real drain on my perseverance. Brownsville Station was all volume, not a piercing volume like Mountain but a low, membrane stretching volume. They overwhelmed you, and it was sad because I liked Brownsville for what they did, good old rock and roll. Sometimes they were silly but they caught on with the crowd and when they did that made their show. They'd be worth bringing back if they were in a place that was small enough to let everyone hear while the volume control knobs stayed somewhere below eight.

The only way I can remember Alice Cooper is in something akin to slow motion or still photographs. I simply cannot remember any of their songs except "Eighteen." I just recall Cooper standing on stage holding a snake that was as tall as he was, outdoing even Jim Morrison. I remember Cooper sitting in a mock up of an electric chair with an insane metal cap on his head that had a light bulb on top. I remember Cooper tied in a straight jacket, or Cooper turning sideways to the crowd, popping his hips and then letting the corner of his body stocking down over his shoulder.



IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION THAT AT THE JOHN MAYALL/ALICE COOPER/BROWNSVILLE STATION CONCERT ONLY FOUR AND FIVE DOLLAR TICKETS WERE SOLD AT THE DOOR, EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE SEVERAL THOUSAND UNSOLD THREE DOLLAR TICKETS. AN EXPLANATION FROM THE PROMOTERS, MIDDLE EARTH PRODUCTIONS, IS CERTAINLY IN ORDER. WHAT ABOUT IT, MIDDLE EARTH?

He came in drag and outdid even Jagger. He stopped the show, so that John Mayall's set was merely an exercise in aesthetics. Yes, Cooper stopped it all with his perversion of everyone's concepts of rock, which might be why no one really liked him. He was too close to home.

So this leaves us with John Mayall, which is where Cooper left us that Sunday. The only thing I have ever truly liked about John Mayall was his harmonica work, because his songs almost always have a melodic sameness that makes them distinguishable only by the words. But Mayall on the harmonica is exciting. His notes ring clear and true.

The only musician that Mayall brought besides himself that had any spontaneity was Sugarcane Harris on violin. It was a shame he wasn't allowed to do more. Harvey Mandell, Paul Lagos and Larry Taylor were decidedly average and subsequently made the show somewhat of a drag. However, they got their encore, but that is not unusual. After all, Pavlov's dogs would

salivate at the sound of a bell and who says a rock star can't have the same affect on an audience.

— John Wilson

Music Shorts

Of Our Own started a new summer schedule last weekend. From now until further notice, the club will be open on Thursday as well as Friday and Saturday. It's going to be cheaper on Thursday also.

StoneAxe will be the featured group next weekend, and if you haven't seen them before you should check 'em out. Their music is loud,

hard rock and they enjoy putting on a show. Backing them will be La Paz, in what I understand is a farewell performance (they are breaking up). They are competent musicians; they will surely find something to keep themselves busy in the future.

The following weekend will feature Potliquor from Baton Rouge, La. A Wed. night benefit for the Mathis family is also being planned for that week (June 16), but no groups are definite yet.

* * * *

Two cheap concerts are coming up in the Music Hall. Mother Earth and Doobie Brothers on June 26 for \$2.50, all seats the same price, all seats reserved, first come first served, etc. Send check for \$2.50 along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Mother Earth Tickets
5530 Ardmore
Houston, Texas

For further info, call 748-5094.

Also scheduled for June in the Music Hall is Taj Mahal and Boz Scaggs. I don't have all the details, but it is a low-price concert. Scaggs, former guitarist with the Steve Miller Band, has a new album out on Columbia and is a fine musician. I hope Houston people will turn out to hear him.

Jetbro Tull is booked in the Coliseum on July 3; exact details are not available. Rumored coming soon is the current touring package of Steve Stills and Crazy Horse, Neil Young's old group. Expect high ticket prices on both of these.

* * * *

Two local rock groups will definitely be releasing singles soon.

Denim, whose music leans towards country-rock, is awaiting of the release of "Colorado Love Song" b/w "Too Bad", coming out in a few weeks on Horizon Productions Texas Revolution label.

StoneAxe is going to record and release their own single, with the "A" side of "Snakebite". They are going to have the things pressed and sold themselves, which should help promote the group. Lynden Hudson is

Cont. on 17

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Cont. from 15

going to do the engineering, and it should be out around the end of June.

* * * *

Danny Thomas, former drummer with the phenomenal Thirteenth Floor Elevators has a new group called Eagle. Still in the formative stage, the group had a reportedly successful gig at the Sponge, and are talking to several other clubs around town.

David Mitchell, former lead player with hard-rock band Josefus, also has a new group called One Human Family. He described the group as "sort of into a country thing." They, too, should be playing around soon.

* * * *

Liberty Hall is definitely together, and doing some fine booking. Next weekend will feature Cajun fiddler Doug "Louisiana Man" Kershaw. Rita Coolidge, formerly one of Cocker's Mad Dogs and a fine entertainer in her own rite, will bring her Dixie Flyers in the following weekend.

Check Space-In for details, or call Liberty Hall, 225-6250.

* * * *

Paul McCartney at Hofheinz Pavilion in September? I'll believe it when I see it.

Wowie-Zowie Department: The Maysles Brothers, who made the Altamont/Stones movie *Gimme Shelter*, are currently on tour filming Grand Funk's multi-million tour. Suggested Titles: *Gimme Six-Fifty!* — J.S.

FILM:

Derby

DERBY, showing at the Village, produced by William Richert, Directed and Photographed by Robert Kaylor,

starring Charlie O'Connell and other stars of the Roller Derby, and Mike Snell and his family and friends.

Derby, showing at the Village, is a cinema verite type film, focusing on that violent, exciting madness known as the roller derby. There's lots of excellent footage of the men and women engaging in this fast paced form of combat. Fights are frequent and heated, if not particularly harmful, since it's a little difficult to throw a good punch when you're on skates. An enthusiastic fan, a little girl is asked what she likes about the derbies. She replies, "the fights."

Charlie O'Connell, the star of the Oakland Bombers, gives us the inside story of life on the hanked rink, and other stars are interviewed, sometimes in the locker room at halftime.

The real crux of the film, however, deals with Mike Snell, who dreams of becoming a skating pro. Mike is a young married man with two small kids, who lives in the lower echelons of suburban tacky-tacky in Dayton Ohio.

He makes a living working in a tire factory, but has arranged for an entre into the sport via a training school in Oakland. We never know whether he makes it or not, which is kind of frustrating, but can respect the fact that he has the guts to try to realize his dreams.

The picture, like most of its genre, is only intermittently engaging. But there are some remarkable moments. One such is when Mike's wife and her best friend, who is incidentally the wife of Mike's best friend and favorite carousing huddy, confront a neighbor woman who has been screwing both husbands. How Director-Photographer Robert Kaylor got this footage is amazing. It is a priceless scene, and only possible in cinema verite.

— Gary Chason

Lawrence of Arabia

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA, showing at the Delman, released by Columbia, produced by Sam Spiegel, Directed by David Lean, Screenplay by Robert

Bolt, starring Peter O'Toole, Alec Guinness, Omar Sharif, Anthony Quinn and Anthony Quayle.

The David Lean-Robert Bolt masterpiece of some years ago *Lawrence of Arabia* is presently showing at the Delman Theatre. If you failed to see it the first time around, like I did, make sure you don't let it slip away unseen this time, for it is definitely worth it.

It is hard to find a place to start praising the picture, since every phase of the production is of such uniformly high quality. Robert Bolt's screenplay is an absolute gem, from start to end (which comes three and a quarter very short hours later).

We are shown the story of a slightly weird British officer stationed in Cairo who organizes the disparate tribes of Arabia into a united revolutionary front which eventually liberates that part of the world from Turkish colonial domination.

We see the evils of colonialism very clearly; even the British have designs on the large hunk of desert the Arabs call home. But since it is their home, the Arabs have the greater will to fight for it, and the necessary knowledge of its eccentricities. All other powers are foiled, either on the battlefield or over the conference table.

It takes the Englishman, Lawrence, to show them the way, however. He helps them overcome their petty intertribal rivalries and unite.

He also bridges the gap between their methods and modern mechanized fighting, creating a thing we now call "guerilla warfare." It is effective enough to chase away the Turks with very little British assistance, which in turn keeps the British from having a good enough excuse to establish much of a neo-colonial foothold.

The character of Lawrence is exquisitely well drawn by Bolt and realized with incredible magnetism by Peter O'Toole. Lawrence is extremely intelligent, well-educated, humane and slightly crazy. He is self-willed to a fanatical degree. He loves the challenge of overcoming such human frailties of fear and pain. He thrives in the harsh desert, which wins such respect from the Arabs that they accept him as one of them. He becomes, for a period of time, very much an Arab.

At a critical point in the revolution,

however, Lawrence undergoes severe personal crisis. He realizes that he is not really an Arab, but a fair complexioned Englishman, and an ordinary one at that. He thinks the latter because he is not able to withstand the torture he receives somewhat freakishly at the hands of the enemy. But he is persuaded to carry on.

He changes. He hires a hunch of cut-throats as his personal bodyguards as the army masses for the march on Damascus. En route, a relatively small contingent of Turks is encountered. Lawrence leads the massacre, ordering that there be no prisoners taken.

Then he completely succumbs to the thrill of killing. He runs out of bullets for his revolver, so he uses his knife. When it's all over, he is drenched in blood, panting lustily from exhaustion, and totally wild-eyed. It is a shocking moment.

At this point in the story, we realize that despite the fact of his enormous success, Lawrence's life is a tragic one. He originally accepts his rather minor assignment because he thinks "it will be fun." In truth, it is an ideal opportunity for him to find himself. By risking his life to save a man left behind in a hazardous desert crossing, he becomes known as "the man for whom nothing is written." Later, he is forced to execute the same man he saved.

He asks to be relieved of his assignment when, horrified, he realizes that he enjoyed killing the man. His superiors will have none of it, though. They are interested in what he can do for them. So his deeply-felt search for identity, a search motivated by the fact that he is a bastard, turns out in a way that is not altogether pleasant.

Besides O'Toole, director Lean gets brilliant performances out of his super cast, which includes Omar Sharif, Anthony Quinn, Alec Guinness and Anthony Quayle. The photography is absolutely stunning, and the music is first rate.

The rumor has it among professional film crews that *Lawrence of Arabia* was one of the all-time toughest locations. I can see why, since they must have spent month after month shooting on the searing deserts of Jordan and Morocco. But it was well worth the effort. See it.

— Gary Chason

Freedom Experience

There's a new shop opening in Houston that is going to sell a great many of the things that are normally found in head shops. This shop will be different though. Instead of selling things produced in Japan, Puerto Rico and Chicago this shop will sell things produced in Houston.

The shop is going to be called the Freedom Experience and it's going to be located at 1214 Miramar in the Espiritu Townhouse. The idea is to invite anyone in Houston who is producing something they'd like to sell to put it in the shop on a consignment basis. Hopefully the shop can become a showplace for locally produced arts and crafts but at least it will provide an income for some of Houston's creative people. Too many talented people spend their time working at a job they hate instead of producing things we could all enjoy. We'd like to do what we can to stop that.

The way the consignment deal will work is that you decide what you want



to charge for what you make and we add 20% to your price in order to pay for the operation of the shop. Freedom Experience is open daily from 1 to 7. If you'd like to talk to us about your work or just stop and have some tea and find out what we're all about or buy something produced by one of your neighbors you're more than welcome.

We hope soon we'll be able to organize classes and workshops where we can all share the knowledge we have with one another. We want to grow and learn and we'd like you to be with us. If you need more information you can call us at JA 8-3301. Check us out.

Houston's free university, the University of Thought, will begin its gala Summer Session on June 14. No tests, no grades, no credits; just a chance to learn the skills you want and/or need. (Isn't that what education spoze to

be?)

There will be classes offered in creative writing, guitar, yoga, languages, ecology, photography (still and moving), whittling, occultism, bicycle and auto maintenance and repair, women's history, computer programming, revolutionary thought, gay identity, various useful aspects of the law, how to use the media, journalism, krishna consciousness, radio production, muck-raking, etc.

Some of the classes will have a definite run (5-10 weeks). Others may run forever.

Some of the classes have "teachers," others don't.

Remember one thing, though, before you rush into signing up for all these nifty courses: The U. of Thought is a place to learn, not a place to be taught. Participants must work together to structure their own classes, and should be prepared to behave

Univ of Thought

responsibly in the absence of tests and grades. An apathetic or passive "teach me" attitude can destroy a free learning experience. 'Nuff said.

If you have trouble getting transportation to classes, and you live in a poor neighborhood, get in touch with the local HCCAA office. They're supposed to provide husses for people who need them to get to class.

To find out more about the U. of Thought and the courses being offered, call 526-7743 or, better yet, drop by the office at 3505 S. Main to pick up a course schedule. You'll be glad you did.

* * *

The University of Thought needs people to help out — with finding "teachers," tracking down funds, getting out publicity and doing general office work. If you can help, get in touch with Cindy at 526-7743.

ART

RICE ART GALLERY open Tuesday thru Saturday 10 am - 6 pm except Thursday 10 - 10 Sunday 1 - 6 pm.
Campus gallery off Univ. and Stockton.

Thur August 31 — an exhibition designed for a child using various media and effects.

Thur August 31 — The Print Club will be exhibiting old prints and woodcuts along with etchings, engravings, and posters. Items will be on sale.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Thur June 13 — University of Kansas exhibit.

Thur Aug 30 — Spring Arts festival.

Museum of Fine Arts is now planning its summer festival. For more info call 526-1361.

GALLERIES

THE BLACK GALLERY. Paintings, sculpture and crafts of black artists. At Operation Breadbasket, 2413 Dowling.

THE ADEPT. Art indigenous to black people. 1617 Blinz.

ST. THOMAS. Drawings and lithos by James Boynton. Welder Hall, Sul Ross at Yoakum.

MUSIC

LIBERTY HALL, 1610 Chenevert (Eight blocks east of Main St.)

June 11-12 — OUG KERSHAW the "Louisiana Man" and another band to be announced. Advance \$3.00, at the door \$3.50.

June 19 — RITA COOLIDGE and the OIXIE FLYERS. Further details next week.

OF OUR OWN, University & Kirby. Shows start at 8 pm. (Non-profit community club) June 10, 11 & 12 — STONEAXE and LA PAZ. Good rock music for \$1 on Thurs and \$1.50 on Fri & Sat.

June 18-19 — POTLIQUOR from Baton Rouge, La. and another band to be announced. \$2.00.

MUSIC HALL, In the Civic Center

June 18 — CAT STEVENS, two shows, call KLOL (222-8103) for details.

June 26 — MOTHER EARTH & DOOBIE BROTHERS. All seats \$2.50. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Mother Earth 5530 Admore Houston, Tex. 77004

ARMADILLO WORLD HEADQUARTERS, 525½ Barton Springs Road, Austin
June 12 — DEMIAN (formerly Bubble Puppy) \$2.00 at the door.

GREEN APPLE, 520 Thornton. (Booze served, under 21 can't drink) Pop, rhythm, and blues. \$2.50 cover on Fri & Sat. Tues nite - all beer you can drink, \$3.00.

GOLDEN FLEECE, 807 Congress (Market Square) 224-4328

June 11-12 — FIRE and another band to be announced. \$1.50 Fri & \$2.50 Sat. Top 40 stuff.

Coming soon (or so we hear): JETHRO TULL & SPIRIT, July 3 In Coliseum.

THEATER

THEATRE

ALLEY THEATRE

Thur June 29 — Dial M for Murder. Call 228-9341 for more details.

Alley Theatre's Summer Film Festival will begin June 24. More info as we get it.

PLAYWRIGHT'S SHOWCASE — IN SICKNESS AND IN SICKNESS a new farce by Jim Bernhard as well as the RECOVERY an equally new farce by Albert Bernier. Extended for two extra performances June 11 and 12. AUTRY HOUSE, 6265 S. Main. Reservations 524-3168.

Playwright's Showcase is now casting for a likely mid-july production of WAITING FOR GODOT.

URBAN THEATRE

BLUES FOR MR. CHARLIE, James Baldwin drama at St. James Episcopal Church, 3129 Southmore. Fri, Sat, Sun thru June 27. 8:30 pm.

THEATER OF LOVE's Theater School to begin two five week summer classes June 14. Classes in acting, voice, dance and tv techniques. Call 623-1639.



Noted jazz great Yusef Lateef, who abandoned the world of classical music to join Cannonball Adderley's quintet a decade ago, and who has since emerged as one of the jazz world's most unique jazz artist, opened a two-week stand with his jazz quartet at La Bastille in Old Market Square on June 7. Mr. Lateef, who prefers to call his music "autophysiopsychic," expresses his talents on the tenor and alto saxophones, flute, oboe, shanai, argole, bassoon, rabat and bamboo flutes (his own invention). This will be his first Texas club appearance. Fine jazz if you got the bread.

FREE unclassifieds

WANTED information on groovy trips, sites, and things to do, methods of traveling, best hitching routes, places not to get stuck, places to stay, etc. For publishing in Freak Tour Guide. Write Sagittarius Rising Tribe, Apt. 204, 2322 40th place NW, Washington, DC 20007

Good drummer looking for prosperous group. Call 941-2581.

Aquarian meditation Lives! We need a place for Sunday night Meditation and meetings. Learn how to bring peace and brotherhood into the world through Aquarian Meditation. Write to PO box 53382, Houston, Texas 77052.

Wanted: Spring edition of Whole Earth Catalog. Call Bill 668-4536.

'62 Cadillac - Black, good condition. \$250 cash. 477-5360.

Dan B. Please call home. I miss you. Rowena.

Experienced promotion person seeking artists or groups to promote, manage, and serve as booking agent. Mature, stable, experienced, and knowledgeable. Call A. Moss 523-5033 between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm ONLY.

Cheri (Crisco). We love and miss you. Please contact the family. It's urgent. Your father's birthday was May 26. Mother.

Freak '61 VW van, with stereo FM-AM radio. \$1400.00 Call Skip at 667-5406.

White rabbit FREE - needs a good home where he'll have room to run. Call Anna Belle at 529-9296.

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APHRA, the feminist literary magazine, seventh issue: Free Women, Passion, Pain, Progress. Fiction, poetry, drawings, sculpture, articles. Heilbrun on Millet; Harold on Eilman/Beauvoir. Whole issue still available. \$1.00, 4-issue subscription for \$3.50. Send to APHRA, Box 273 Village Station, New York, N.Y. 10014.

VW mechanical work at really cheap rates with discount on parts. Assured satisfaction. See Rick at 1114 Palm St. or call 522-2912. FOR SALE Yamaha jumbo 6 strings \$50.00. 529-5529.

Ride wanted to and from San Francisco. Will share expenses. 529-9321.

Anyone who can give me and another dude a ride to Celebration of Life call Patrick before noon at 497-8455, will share expenses.

Need ride to Denver area. Will share expenses. 444-5255.

Allen speaker cabinet w/2 1/2 12" speakers. Silvertone 100 watt amp \$100.00. Call Scot at 622-0963.

Boy's Schwinn bicycle for sale. Rack and lights. Best offer. 522-5846.

Professional window washing, also painting and carpentry. Laymen's prices or barter. Call Brian Fuller at 524-4372.

Freely structured nursery school for little freaks. Prefer infants up to 18 mo. Experienced, dependable, reasonable prices. Call Nancy at 862-7729.

Driving to New York and want a rider to share expenses and companionship. I want to leave around the 16th. Call Fred at 529-8624.

RADIO

PACIFICA KPFT-FM 90.1

Mon thru Fri — WORKERS OF THE WORLD ARISE. Wake up with good ol' Gavan Ouffy.

June 9 — AMERICAN WOMEN. Interview with Ruthie Gorton, women's liberation singer and song-writer.

Mon thru Fri — LIFE ON EARTH conversational news. 6 pm.

Tues and Thurs — CHICANOS CAN TO 4 pm

Weds — AMERICAN WOMEN, Nancy Simpson's women's show. 3:00 pm.

Mon thru Fri — LIFE RAFT Jeff Shiro's show. Lots of good music. Also interviews with various interesting characters.

KLOL

Sunday afternoons noon til 6 pm. Music and Talk and Stuff with Bill Narum (yes the Bill Narum) Lotza nice stuff.

KAUM

Sun — Chicanos and Chicanas 8 pm
Black Insight 8:30 pm.

FILMS

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON — All of these films are free. All are at 8:00 pm.

June 10 — The Molly McGuires. The Houston Room.

June 17 — Captain Nemo and the Underwater City, Arnold Hall.

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA Delman. Revival of oldie-but-great. \$2.50.

LITTLE BIG MAN River Oaks. \$2.50.

DERBY Village. Movie about the lives of people in the Roller Derby. \$2.50.

TROPIC OF CANCER. Rip Torn in x-rated adaptation of Henry Miller's novel. Alray.

In the Park

June 8 — Houston Symphony. Soprano Pauline Stark; operatic arias and

Shostakovich's Symphony no.1. 8:15 pm.

June 10 — Houston Symphony. Violinist Rosemary Silverstein in Mozart

concerto. 8:15 pm.

June 12 — Hal Tennyson's Young Jazz

Artists and Dick Shannon's Dixieland

Band. 8:30 pm.

CANDLELIGHT PARK, 1520 Candlelight in Oak Forest. Free.

June 8 — Harley Rex conducts the Municipal Band. 7:30 pm.

INS & OUTS

University of Thought has opened its summer classes. All classes are at U of H. All classes are free. They have everything from creative writing to Modern HI FI/Stereo. Check them out. Drop by their office at 3505 Main.

There will be a Women's Conference this coming Oct. 22-25. I'll put more information in as I get it.

Jewish Community Center will begin their adult program for the summer the week of June 14. They will offer such courses as a High School Diploma Program, Basic

Electronics, Basic Drafting, Needlepoint, and many others. For more info call 729-3200.

Gay Pride Week is June 22-29. Your gay brothers and sisters invite you to join them in Austin for a holiday of gay community and celebration. For housing and general information write to Gay Pride Week PO Box 374, Austin, Tex. 78767.

Christopher Street West's Gay Parade will be held June 22 in L.A., with a dance afterwards. For more info write to Rodger Young Center, 936 Washington Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.

There will be a pot luck dinner for those interested in being part of a non-violent study and action group. Bring a dish to share. June 14, 21, 28. 3909 Browning St. 7 p.m.

There will be a meeting Monday, June 14, between the newly formed Houston Organized Tenants for Action and the regional director for HUD in Fort Worth. Call 224-3062 for info.

THE RAT HOLE is a new head shop that stay's open late, real late so you can get papers, pipes, etc, when you really need them. Open 1 am til 1 am til 2 Fri and Sat. Located 2474 Times Blvd. in the Village, across from Bay Surf.

Grand Jury cont.

Cont. from 7

only after national attention has been focused on the city government's lack of concern for protecting the rights of its citizens.

So one inevitably comes to wonder exactly what is behind the present investigation. Converse has called it a "witch hunt." He might be right. The grand jury system certainly has the potential of being used as an agent of repression against those in political disfavor with the rulers of a city.

Consider, for example, how a grand jury is selected. The district court judge appoints three grand jury commissioners of his own choosing. (These commissioners are required by law to come from different parts of the county, but they may be challenged, once they have been empanelled, for failure to meet that criterion.) These commissioners are then responsible for selecting the remainder of the grand jury. The only qualifications for being on the jury are that the prospective juror be a citizen of the county and qualified to vote, that he be a freeholder and literate, and that he not be under indictment or previously convicted of a felony. Within these guidelines, the commissioners may select any of their friends they wish. There are no criteria for the jury representing a cross section of the population — whether by income bracket, race, sex, political convictions or whatever.

Once the jury is selected, it has powers that are potentially very frightening. The grand jury can subpoena anyone it wishes. It places him under oath and then asks him questions about his activities — all this can happen without the person being arrested for committing any crime. Moreover, the witness is not even entitled to an attorney in the room in which he is being questioned — a constitutional right of arrested felons. All grand jury deliberations are secret. The participants are not allowed to divulge the proceedings while the jury is in session.

So the grand jury system seems well suited for hunting witches. It also can be used to reassure an apprehensive public that action is being taken, which may or may not be the case.

It would be quite possible for the present investigation to turn out a few indictments with a lot of attendant publicity and still fail to get to the heart of the matter. Then, the district attorney's office could easily turn its attention to the other side, where it may well have been looking all along: the Houston left.

Attackees Speak

Richard Atwater

On Thursday, June 1, four people, including two Space City! staffers, who have been victims or witnesses of terrorist attacks in Houston, held a press conference to release some of the information they had. They also offered to testify before the Grand Jury investigating these attacks.

Debbie Leonard, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for Mayor of Houston, told of several visits by members of the Klan to the Pathfinder Book Store, which was later bombed. She also told of threats she has received lately, in an effort to intimidate her and the SWP.

Yvonne Hauge, of the Houston Committee to End the War in Vietnam, also gave a statement detailing harassment, both personal and directed against the HCEWV. Most of the harassment consisted of threatening phone calls and disruption of rallies and marches. While all this took place, the Houston Police refused to intervene. In one case when parade monitors turned Louis Beam, who had attacked several marchers, over to the police, they released him after holding him a short time in "protective custody". Beam was later quoted in the Houston Tribune as saying that the police had "helped him".

Fred Brode, whose home has been shot up repeatedly, also submitted a statement on harassment. You repression freaks will no doubt remember that the shootings got so bad that Brode had to sandbag his home for his own protection. The police have not been much help to him either.

Margaret Webb Dreyer, and Martin Dreyer of the Houston Chronicle also gave a statement of shootings at the Dreyer Gallery. Sorry to say that there are still no suspects in that one either. The Dreyers also have received middle of the night phone calls, which have become all too familiar to all of us.

The two Space City! staffers, Sherwood Bishop and myself, submitted statements on Mike Lowe, Louis Beam and Jimmy Hutto, as well as a lot of background information on terrorist acts in Houston. One thing that all of the statements had in common was the belief that the Houston Police were not very interested in stopping the terrorist acts. It's almost enough to make one political when bullets start flying, and all Herman Short can talk about is getting rid of "subversives".

We all went upstairs to the DA's office next, to talk with assistant DA Warren White and Sgt. Ford of the Criminal Intelligence Department. I recognized Ford from one of the occasions when the old Family Hand was raided. Wonder why they sent a CID man? We stated that we were willing to give the Grand Jury all the information we had on terrorism in Houston, and we offered our cooperation in the investigation.

White and Ford, although they were very friendly and polite, indicated that they didn't appreciate the publicity that the case was receiving, and White stated that it would be more difficult for him to get convictions if the case became a "political football" (as if it wasn't already). They also discussed some of the incidents mentioned in our reports. Sgt. Ford assured Debbie that he was convinced that the SWP had not bombed its own book store. This is quite an interesting statement, as Ford was one of the supporters of this theory when Lt. Singleton first suggested it.

They also expressed their gratitude for our cooperation, but White just shook his head sadly and said that he was afraid that we didn't offer much in the way of "concrete evidence" linking members of the Klan to the acts of terrorism. In fact, White confessed that the only reason why the investigation was started in the first place was because of the adverse publicity in Newsweek. Short and company were starting to look bad.

We suggested that if the Police had got off their asses and responded to some of our calls, or perhaps if they had bothered to hold people who were caught committing these acts, maybe the Grand Jury would have more to go on. I asked them if maybe the Grand Jury should be investigating possible collusion between the Police and the Klan. Both of them became quite upset with this, and they implied that I was taking a non-cooperative attitude by making such rash statements. Oh well, I was only trying to help.

Anyway, I guess some progress is being made; at least they are probing into some of the attacks, but it appears that they will not be able to resolve many of them. Just not enough "concrete evidence". Maybe something good will happen, like Mike Lowturningstate's evidence, but I'm not holding my breath.

**DAVE LAMBLE · THOMAS WRIGHT · CAROL KNEELAND ·
RANDY COVINGTON · MIKE SHUGART ·
ELMA BARRERA.**



